

Message Text

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72

ACTION SS-30

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O R 160230Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4581

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11980

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, JA

SUBJECT: ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS

REF: TOKYO 11978

SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR SNEIDR SAW TOGO PM SEPT. 15 FOR
BRIEF PRIVATE CHAT, LARGELY ON ROK-JAPANESE RELATIONS.
TOGO EMPHASIZED GOJ DESIRE FOR VERY EARLY SETTLEMENT
OF CURRENT PROBLEMS AND WAS OPTIMISTIC AGREEMENT COULD BE
REACHED BY SEPT. 17 AS RESULT FURTHER CONCESSIONS.
SHIINA WOULD THEN COME TO SEOUL ON SEPT. 18. END
SUMMARY

1. TOGO SAID FONOFF NOW DRAWING UP "AMPLIFICATION" OF
TANAKA LETTER AFTER CONVINCING ROK LETTER COULD NOT
BE REVISED DUE DEPARTURE OF TANAKA. AMPLIFICATION
WOULD BE IN ORAL "STATEMENT" TO BE BROUGHT OFFICIALLLY
BY SHIINA, TEXT OF STATEMENT STILL BEING DEVELOPED
IN TOKYO AND REQUIRES FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR
POLICE OFFICIALS, WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THREE KEY
QUESTIONS, "RESPONSIBILITY", PROSECUTION OF ACCOMPLICES,
AND CONTROL OVER CHOSEN SOREN. TOGO EXPLAINED
POLICE CONCURRENCE NECESASARY AND INDICATED POLICE HAVE
BEEN PROBLEM FOR FONOFF SINCE THEY ARE STILL UNHAPPY
WITH ROK FAILURE TO TAKE ANY PUNITITIVE ACTION AGAINST
ROK CIA HEAD IN TOKYO RESPONSIBLE FOR KIM
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TAE-JUNG KIDNAPPING.

2. DUE TO HOLIDAY SEPT. 16, DRAFT TEXT WILL NOT BE READY UNTIL SEPT 17, BUT FONOFF HOPES TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS THAT DAY WITH SHIINA ARRIVING ON SEPT. 18. TOGO IS OPTIMISTIC THAT "AMPLIFICATION" WILL PROVIDE SATISFACTORY. HE MENTIONED SEVERAL PROBLEMS. FIRST, IF GOJ TAKES FULL RESPONSIBILITY, RESIGNATION OF NATIONAL POLICE CHIEF WOULD BE REQUIRED AND THIS GOJ WISHES TO AVOID. SECOND, ROK POLICE PARTICIPATION IN JAPAN INVESTIGATION DIFFICULT UNLESS THIS COULD BE ARRANGED ON RECIPROCAL BASIS. THIRD, JAPANESE POLICE NEED FURTHER EVIDENCE TO LEGALLY INTERROGATE CHOSEN SOREN LEADER KIM-HO-RYON AND THIS REQUESTED FROM ROK POLICE. FINALLY, TIGHTER CONTROL OVER CHOSEN SOREN MUST BE WITHIN RESTRICTIVE LEGAL STRUCTURE.

3. TOGO EMPHASIZED GOJ DESIRE ACHIEVE QUICK SETTLEMENT AND RECOGNIZED NEED FOR JAPANESE MAKE ADDITIONAL EFFORT. HE ALSO APPRECIATIVE OF US EFFORTS AND ACKNOWLEDGED GOJ SLOW TO ACT. HE SAID ASSASSINATION HAD ALERTED LDP AND GOVERNMENT TO NEED FOR TIGHTER CONTROL OVER CHOSEN SOREN. BUT LEGAL RESTRAINTS EXIST AND GOVERNMENT IS WARY OF PRESS AND OPPOSITION CRITICISM. NEVERTHELESS, GOJ SEEKS NOT ONLY QUICK SOLUTION TO CURRENT DIFFICULTIES BUT OVERALL IMPROVEMENT IN ROK-JAPANESE RELATIONS; DETERIORATION IN RELATIONS LIMIT JAPANESE ABILITY TO BE HELPFUL IN UN AND BILATERALLY.

4. SNEIDER STRESSED US DESIRE FOR AMICABLE SOLUTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND URGED GOJ BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN "ORAL STATEMENT". HE POINTED OUT ROK EMOTION RUNNING VERY HIGH. UNDERLYING CURRENT PROBLEM IS DEEP BECAUSE OF ROK INSECURITY WHICH NEEDS TO BE DEALT WITH. TOGO AGREED ON NEED TO REASSURE ROK AND SAID FONOFF SEEKING TO CONTERACT PRESS CRITICISM OF ROK. SNEIDER URGED CONSTANT GOJ EFFORTS TO BE SYMPATHETIC WITH KOREA'S PROBLEMS AND HELPFUL PARTICULARLY GIVEN ROK CONCERNS WITH COPING WITH MUCH GREATER POWER OF JAPAN.
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5. IT WAS AGREED THAT SNEIDER MIGHT PASS GIST OF ABOVE TO FONMIN KIM SEPT. 16, WHILE MAKING CLEAR EXACT LANGUAGE OF "ORAL STATEMENT" LEFT TO JAPANESE AND KOREANS TO NEGOTIATE.

6. TOGO INCIDENTALLY CONFIRMED THAT FONMIN KIMURA WOULD DELAY HIS DEPARTURE TO U.S. UNTIL SHIINA HAD

RETURNED FROM SEOUL, AS A MARK OF CONCERN ABOUT
PROBLEM AND INTENSE INTEREST OF GOJ IN ACHIEVING
EARLY SETTLEMENT.
HODGSON

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